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6 arrested at UW in CIA protest

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Madison — Six people were arrested and four injured Wednesday in scuffles between students and University of Wisconsin — Madison police at a protest against CIA recruiting.

About 75 people participated in the protest, and an equal number watched.

The protesters, many of them students chanting anti-CIA slogans, marched Wednesday afternoon to the UW — Madison Engineering Building, where CIA recruiters were doing job interviews with about 50 students.

Four of the arrests occurred when protesters resisted five officers' attempt to confiscate a portable public address system, said Lt. Phillip Dixon, a campus police spokesman.

Elise Johnston, 21, a UW — Madison student, sustained a cut above her left eye during the melee.

Johnston, who appeared dazed, told a reporter a portable speaker that a protester was holding in the air had hit her when police tried to break through a group of students.

She was taken to University of Wisconsin Hospital and Clinics, where she was treated and released.

Police struggled with about 25 protesters during a 90-second incident outside the main entrance to the building. Several protesters who had linked arms were knocked to the ground, and those arrested were dragged inside the building by campus police.

The protest did not interrupt the interviews, Dixon said.

Three officers and a student were injured in the incident, Dixon said. The officers had cuts and scrapes,



Bennett Masel was lifted by two police officers and arrested on a disorderly conduct charge during an anti-CIA protest Wednesday in front of the University of Wisconsin — Madison Engineering Building. Five other demonstrators were arrested in the protest.

— Morry Gash photo

and one sprained an elbow, Dixon said.

All six people arrested were charged with disorderly conduct, according to a spokesman at the Dane County Jail. Three also were charged with obstructing justice, and two of those three were charged with resisting arrest.

All but one 24-year-old Madison

man had been released after posting bond Wednesday night, said a spokesman at the Dane County Jail.

Protesters have said they want the CIA barred from campus because of its "crimes" in Central America and elsewhere.

The UW — Madison Faculty Senate in May reaffirmed policies allowing the CIA to recruit on campus.